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# WHEN YOU WRITE A STORY

## Tips for Writing Dialogue:

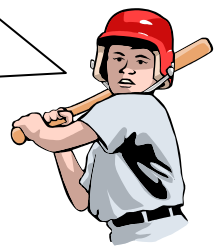
Good writers use dialogue to make their stories come alive:

- ✓ Dialogue gives characters a distinctive personal style and lets them voice their feelings and motivations.



Sir, I did not mean to kick him. I was trying to kick the ball.

Come on, man! Gimme a pitch I can whack out of the park!



- ✓ Dialogue moves the plot forward.
- ✓ The speaker is identified and quotation marks are used.

*The umpire yelled, "That's a foul!"*  
*"Sir, I did not mean to kick him," said Tom.*
- ✓ Speakers may not always talk in complete sentences.
- ✓ Speech is direct and has a natural rhythm.